after the area becomes technically feasible. However, the party as well as the Hon'ble Member of Parliament are kept informed accordingly in regard to technically non-feasible cases.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. All such cases are directly monitored by the respective Chief General Managers of all the Telecom Circles/Districts and Telecom Commission Headquarters is kept apprised accordingly.

Waiting list of telephone connections in Assam

3250. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has plan to provide telephone connections on demand from the year 2000 onwards; and

(b) if so, the details of waiting list for telephone connections in Assam as on date and by when the telephone connections are likely to be provided to the wait-listed people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The Ninth Five Year Plan of Department of Telecom Services envisages to provide telephone connections on demand in the country by 31.3.2002 with the participation of private sector complementing the efforts of Government.

(b) The waiting list for telephone connections in Assam Telecom Circle as on 31.3.2000 was only 5475 as against the all India figure of 36.81 lakh. These wait listed people in Assam Circle will be provided telephone connections progressively during the current financial year.

Waiting list of telephone connections in Orissa

3251. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the exchange-wise number of waiting list for the telephone connections in Orissa and the time frame by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): The exchange-wise number of waiting list for telephone connections in Orissa is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 85. The existing waiting list is likely to be